



# POLICY BRIEF



## THE AMERICAN PEOPLE VS. BIDEN'S LGBTQI+ AGENDA

The Department of Education has the stated mission to “promote student achievement...by fostering educational excellence.”<sup>1</sup> The American people expect educational excellence in academic subjects like reading, writing, and arithmetic, and they do not want schools to be a platform for LGBTQI+ indoctrination. Notwithstanding, in their most recent executive order, the Biden administration imposes gender ideology taught by the LGBTQI+ community on schools and children. On June 15, 2022, President Biden signed an executive order to “advance equality for LGBTQI+ people” by requiring agencies including the Department of Education to establish working groups and policies that affirm certain sexual desires of teenagers and adults.<sup>2</sup> The Executive Order (EO):

### 1. Launches an attack on states' authority

- The EO requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to “develop and release sample policies for States” to increase access to LGBTQI+ affirming health care.<sup>3</sup> “Affirmation” care refers to medical interventions that work to change a person’s body to cosmetically resemble the opposite sex.<sup>4</sup>
- These policies are intended to circumvent existing state laws that limit gender transition surgery for minors or restrict sex education in schools.
- President Biden has lied about state laws, such as Florida’s Parental Rights in Education Act. The law expands school communications with parents and prohibits sex education in K-3 classrooms.<sup>5</sup> Biden labeled it the “Don’t Say Gay Bill” and celebrated students who defied school authority based on the false name.<sup>6</sup>
- It is far outside the responsibility of the federal government to prevent states from passing legitimate laws to protect minors from invasive surgery or LGBTQI+ ideology school curriculum.

### 2. Silences truth, promotes lies, and usurps the family role over counseling options for youth

- “Conversion therapy” is a label for therapy that aids gender dysphoric youth to feeling secure in their bodily sex.<sup>7</sup>
- The EO requires HHS to create an initiative to reduce use of “conversion therapy” by issuing guidance prohibiting federal funds from supporting the practice, promoting information about risks, and identifying funding opportunities for “survivors” of conversion therapy. It also requires the Federal Trade Commission to investigate if conversion therapy is an unfair or deceptive practice.<sup>8</sup>
- The EO’s reach does not stop at America’s borders. The EO also requires the Secretary of State and other heads of agencies to create an “action plan” to end use of conversion therapy across the entire world. The Biden administration has no business telling parents or therapists what method of therapy must be used. This same message should not be forced on other countries around the world.
- Further still, the EO instructs HHS to expand family counseling for families who “reject” their LGBTQI+ youth and directs the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study impacts of family “affirmation” of youth lifestyle choices.<sup>9</sup>
- The best medical studies show no benefit for hormone or surgery for students with gender dysphoria, and there are no studies on the long-term effects of blocking puberty in a healthy child.<sup>10</sup> A report in June found higher suicide rates among teens who had access to cross-sex treatments without parental consent.<sup>11</sup>

- Parents have the right to seek therapy that is appropriate for the needs of their children. It is inappropriate for the federal government to shame families for following their conscience to encourage teenagers to keep the body they were born with.

### 3. Forces indoctrination of youth

- The EO requires the Secretary of Education to create a “Working Group on LGBTQI+ Students and Families” responsible for creating sample policies for school districts to make “inclusive learning environments.”<sup>12</sup> It also requires the Department of Education to promote policies at state and local schools that affirm the choices and desires of LGBTQI+ students.<sup>13</sup>
- The Biden administration promotes efforts to pedal sexual ideology to children and teens at school. Again, the Biden administration attempt to prohibit states from making their own laws about sex education curriculum.

With these actions, the Biden administration shames states who make laws protecting children, cancels legitimate counseling options, and erodes the autonomy of the family unit.

Instead of social engineering education, Republicans believe schools should focus on excellent academic performance and protecting parental rights without imposing radical sexual ideology. They affirm states’ authority to write their own laws and create their own sexual education curriculum. Republicans support protecting excellent medical and therapy practices and letting parents choose how to care for their children.

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<sup>1</sup> “Overview and Mission Statement.” U.S. Department of Education. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/landing.jhtml>

<sup>2</sup> “Executive Order on Advancing Equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Individuals.” The White House. June 15, 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/15/executive-order-on-advancing-equality-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-individuals/>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Anderson, Ryan T. “Protect Good Medicine, Stop the Censorship of Good Counseling.” Public Discourse. October 21, 2020. <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2020/10/72271/>

<sup>5</sup> “Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Historic Bill to Protect Parental Rights in Education.” Governor Ron DeSantis. March 28, 2022. <https://flgov.com/2022/03/28/governor-ron-desantis-signs-historic-bill-to-protect-parental-rights-in-education/>

<sup>6</sup> Klein, Betsy and Vazquez, Maegan. “Biden commemorates Pride Month with new executive order: ‘We have a lot more work to do.’” CNN. June 15, 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/15/politics/joe-biden-pride-month-executive-order/index.html>

<sup>7</sup> Anderson. “Protect Good Medicine.” <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2020/10/72271/>

<sup>8</sup> “Executive Order” <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/15/executive-order-on-advancing-equality-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-individuals/>

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Anderson. “Protect Good Medicine.” <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2020/10/72271/> and Anderson, Ryan and George, Robert. “Physical Interventions on the Bodies of Children to ‘Affirm’ their ‘Gender Identity’ Violate Sound Medical Ethics and Should be Prohibited.” The Public Discourse. December 8, 2019. <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2019/12/58839/>

<sup>11</sup> Green, Jay. “Does ‘Gender-Affirming Care’ for Trans Kids Actually Prevent Suicide? Here’s What the Data Say.” <https://www.heritage.org/gender/commentary/does-gender-affirming-care-trans-kids-actually-prevent-suicide-heres-what-the>

<sup>12</sup> “Executive Order.” <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/15/executive-order-on-advancing-equality-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-individuals/>

<sup>13</sup> “Executive Order.” <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/15/executive-order-on-advancing-equality-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-individuals/>